

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 50-86 are currently pending. Claims 43-49 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; and Claims 50-86 have been added by the present amendment. New Claims 50-86 are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.¹

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 43-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2009/0030978 to Johnson et al. (hereinafter “the ‘978 application”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,453,371 to Hampson et al. (hereinafter “the ‘371 patent”); and Claim 49 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘978 application in view the ‘371 patent and U.S. Patent No. 5,801,664 to Seidensticker et al. (hereinafter “the ‘664 patent”).

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Nguyen for the interview granted Applicants’ representatives on November 23, 2009, at which time the presently submitted proposed new claims were discussed. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that the proposed new claims appear to overcome cited references at this point. However, further search and/or consideration would be required upon formal submission of a response to the outstanding Office Action.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 43-49 are rendered moot by the present cancelation of those claims. However, since the present amendment adds new

¹ See, e.g., Figure 57 and the discussion related thereto; and page 40, line 13 to page 41, line 3 in the originally filed specification.

Claims 50-86 for examination on the merits, Applicants will address the '978 application, the '371 patent, and the '664 patent, with respect to the newly added claims.

New Claim 50 is directed to an information processing apparatus, comprising:

a communication unit configured to communicate with
a portable device for playing content data; and

a control unit configured

to detect a connection between the information
processing apparatus and the portable device via the
communication unit, and

to activate automatically a predetermined
application installed in the information processing
apparatus when the connection is detected, wherein

said predetermined application is configured to transfer
the content data between the portable device and the
information processing apparatus, and to play the content data.

The '978 application is directed to a media content device and system. In particular, the '978 application discusses a system, a method, and a device that enables the provision of feedback pertaining to received information and advertisements to initiate electronic commerce transactions in a playback device operable to receive a variety of content from various sources and playback the content at a later time.²

The Office Action apparently acknowledges, and it is respectfully submitted, that the '978 application fails to disclose "wherein the detecting unit detects connection of the portable device."³ Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the '978 application fails to disclose a control unit configured to *activate automatically a predetermined application* installed in the information processing apparatus *when the connection is detected*.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that the '371 and '664 patents fail to remedy the deficiencies of the '978 application, as discussed above.

² See '978 application, paragraph [0002].

³ See Office Action dated September 1, 2009, page 3.

The '371 patent is directed to a method, apparatus, and system for selection of a port for data exchange. In particular, the '371 patent discusses that some of the methods include the portable computer receiving a request signal for data exchange, and determining whether the signal is from a physical accessory. The '371 patent discusses that if the portable computer determines that the signal is from the physical accessory, the portable computer exchanges data through the corresponding physical accessory.⁴ Moreover, the '664 patent is directed to a system and method for transmitting data from a computer to a portable information device using RF emissions from a computer monitor. As noted in the Office Action, the '664 patent discusses transferring data using a CRT and AM signal.⁵

However, it is respectfully submitted that the '371 and '664 patents, alone or in proper combination, fail to disclose a control unit configured to *activate automatically a predetermined application* installed in the information processing apparatus *when the connection is detected*.

Thus, no matter how the teachings of the '978 application, the '371 patent, and the '664 patent are combined, the combination does not teach or suggest the control unit of Claim 50. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 50 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over any proper combination of the '978 application, the '371 patent, and the '664 patent.

New Claims 68 and 86 recite, *inter alia*,

activating automatically, by the control unit of the information processing apparatus, a predetermined application installed in the information processing apparatus when the portable device is detected to be connected to the information processing apparatus.

As noted above, the '978 application, the '371 patent, and the '664 patent, alone or in proper combination, fail to disclose the control unit of Claim 50. Thus, it is respectfully

⁴ See '371 patent, column 3, lines 50-55.

⁵ See Office Action dated September 1, 2009, page 5.

submitted that the '978 application, the '371 patent, and the '664 patent fail to disclose the activating step of Claims 68 and 86. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 68 and 86 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over any proper combination of the '978 application, the '371 patent, and the '664 patent.

CONCLUSION

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 50, 68, and 86 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over the '978 application, the '371 patent, and the '664 patent.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

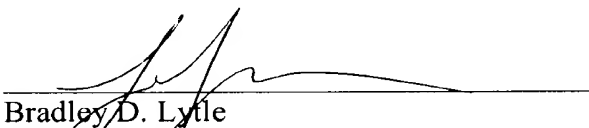
Respectfully submitted,

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